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29 March 1954

SUBJECT: Coordination of External Research

1. The mechanics of coordinating the Agency's external research are described in the proposed revision of Agency Regulation 50-17, attached, (TAB 1). This Regulation has been coordinated throughout the Agency at the working level. Final action has been withheld pending the relocation of the coordinating function.

25X1A5a1

2. The chief Agency contractor is the Center for International Studies. The background of the organization of its functions, and its work for the Agency since its establishment in 1951 are summarized in the attached request (TAB 2) for funds for dated 3 August 1953, which was subsequently approved. 25X1A5a1

- 3. The kinds of problems involved in coordinating external research are illustrated by a number of selected memoranda (attached):
 - a. Appraisal of Research Projects of 1951-53, dated 9 September 1953 (TAB 3); 25X1A5a1
 - b. Reasons for non-concurrence in an OSI project on electromagnetic interception, dated 27 October 1953 and 30 October 1953 (TAB 4);
 - c. CIA contribution to External Research Inventory, dated 3 March 1954 (TAB 5). The inventory is one of the activities conducted by the External Research Staff, Department of State, to the financial support of which the Agency is a major contributor;
 - d. Request for comments on proposed project on election analyses, dated 30 October 1953 (TAB 6). This project was proposed by OIR/State, subsequently approved and supported by the Agency.

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- e. Interagency External Research Meetings, dated 5 March 1953 (TAB 7). This illustrates one of the means by which the Agency's Coordinator of External Research exchanges information informally with representatives of other agencies engaged in research of interest to CIA.
- 4. A list of major active "non-sensitive" external research projects is also attached (TAB 8).